

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development, comprising:  
carrier particles, each carrier particle having:

a core particle; and

a coating layer covering the core particle,

wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claim 2 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 1, wherein the ferrite particle comprises:

Fe in an amount of from 15% by mass to 45% by mass;

Mn in an amount of from 1% by mass to 25% by mass; and

Mg in an amount from 0.1% by mass to 1.0% by mass.

Claim 3 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 1, which has a magnetic moment of from 40 Am<sup>2</sup>/kg to 90 Am<sup>2</sup>/kg at 1 kilooersted.

Claim 4 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 1, wherein the carrier particles have a weight-average particle diameter Dw of from 20  $\mu$ m to 65  $\mu$ m, and wherein the content of carrier particles having a particle diameter of 9  $\mu$ m or less is 3.0% by weight or less.

Claim 5 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 1, wherein the coating layer comprises at least one of a silicone resin and an acrylic resin.

Claim 6 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 5, wherein the acrylic resin is contained in the coating layer in an amount of from 10% by weight to 90% by weight.

Claim 7 (Original): A carrier for latent electrostatic image development according to Claim 5, wherein the coating layer comprises a plurality of layers.

Claims 8-26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (Original): A developer, comprising:  
a toner in the form of particles each having a binder resin and a coloring agent; and  
a carrier having carrier particles, each carrier particle having a core particle and a coating layer covering the core particle,  
wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claim 28 (Original): A developer according to Claim 27, wherein the toner particles have a weight-average particle diameter  $D_w$  of from 3  $\mu\text{m}$  to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

Claims 29-34 (Canceled).

Claim 35 (Original): A container housing a developer, the developer comprising:  
a toner in the form of particles each having at least a binder resin and a coloring agent; and  
a carrier having carrier particles, each carrier particle having a core particle and a coating layer covering the core particle,  
wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claims 36-38 (Canceled).

Claim 39 (Original): An image forming apparatus, comprising:  
a latent electrostatic image bearing member for bearing a latent electrostatic image;  
a latent electrostatic image forming unit for forming a latent electrostatic image on the latent electrostatic image bearing member;  
a developing unit for developing the latent electrostatic image using a developer to form a visible image;  
a transferring unit for transferring the visible image to a recording medium; and  
a fixing unit for fixing the transferred image on the recording medium,  
the developer comprising:  
a toner in the form of particles each having at least a binder resin and a coloring agent; and  
a carrier having carrier particles, each carrier particle having a core particle and a coating layer covering the core particle,

wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claims 40-42 (Canceled).

Claim 43 (Original): An image forming process, comprising the steps of:  
forming a latent electrostatic image on a latent electrostatic image bearing member;  
developing the latent electrostatic image using a developer to form a visible image;  
transferring the visible image to a recording medium; and  
fixing the transferred image on the recording medium,  
the developer comprising:

a toner in the form of particles each having at least a binder resin and a coloring agent; and

a carrier having carrier particles, each carrier particle having a core particle and a coating layer covering the core particle,

wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claims 44-46 (Canceled).

Claim 47 (Original): A process cartridge, being attachable to and detachable from a main body of image forming apparatus and integrally comprising:

a developing unit for developing a latent electrostatic image using a developer to form a visible image; and

at least one selected from the group consisting of:

a latent electrostatic image bearing member for bearing a latent electrostatic image;

a latent electrostatic image forming unit for forming a latent electrostatic image on the latent electrostatic image bearing member; and

a cleaning unit for cleaning,

the developer comprising:

a toner in the form of particles each having at least a binder resin and a coloring agent; and

a carrier having carrier particles, each carrier particle having a core particle and a coating layer covering the core particle,

wherein the core particle is a ferrite particle comprising at least one of Zr in an amount of from 0.01% by mass to 5% by mass and Bi in an amount of from 0.005% by mass to 1% by mass.

Claims 48-50 (Canceled).